

**441—88.3 (249A) Enrollment.**

**88.3(1) *Enrollment area.*** Counties in an HMO enrollment area shall be designated as either voluntary or mandatory. In voluntary counties enrollment is not required but eligible recipients may choose to join the HMO. See subrule 88.3(2) for information about voluntary enrollment. In mandatory counties enrollment is required for eligible recipients. See subrule 88.3(3) for information about mandatory enrollment.

**88.3(2) *Voluntary enrollment.*** When only one HMO in any county has a contract with the department, and the county is not a mandatory project county for Medicaid Patient Management (MediPASS) under subrule 88.43(1), enrollment by Medicaid recipients in the HMO is voluntary. The state encourages recipients to enroll in an HMO. Applicants and recipients eligible for HMO enrollment as set forth in subrule 88.2(4) are offered the option of HMO enrollment. Persons who enroll with the HMO shall have the right to request disenrollment at any time as defined at subrule 88.4(3).

Applicants or recipients can designate their choices on a form designated by the managed health care contractor or in writing to or with a verbal request to the Medicaid managed health care contractor. The form shall be available through the county office, provider offices, the HMO office, the managed health care contractor, or other locations at the department's discretion. If the HMO (or any entity listed above other than the managed health care contractor) receives the form, it shall be forwarded to the managed health care contractor within three working days.

Recipients shall be accepted by the HMO in the order in which they enroll without restrictions.

Recipients who choose not to enroll in an HMO shall be covered under regular Medicaid.

**88.3(3) *Mandatory enrollment.*** Participation in managed health care, if available, is required as specified in this subrule for covered eligibles who reside in a mandatory project county. The department shall require, whenever administratively feasible, that all eligible recipients enroll with a managed care entity. Administrative feasibility is determined by whether a freedom-of-choice waiver or state plan amendment has been approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and whether the managed care entities demonstrate sufficient access to and quality of services.

**88.3(4) *Effective date.*** The effective date of enrollment shall be no later than the first day of the second month subsequent to the date on which the managed health care contractor receives the designated managed health care choice form or written or verbal request except as defined at 88.4(4) "b." The recipients shall be entitled to regular Medicaid until the effective date of HMO enrollment which shall always be the first day of the month. The effective date shall be earlier than the second subsequent month where computer cutoff allows.

**88.3(5) *Identification card.*** The HMO may issue an appropriate identification card to the enrollee or request the department to do it on its behalf. The identification card shall be issued so the recipient receives it prior to the effective date of enrollment.

**88.3(6) *Limitations on enrollment.*** Contracting managed care entities may specify in a contract a limit to the number of recipients who can be assigned under subrule 88.3(7). If a limit is specified, the contracting entity must still provide services to all enrolled recipients who voluntarily select enrollment in that option. If a specified limitation is reached, the remaining assignment needs in that county shall be met by the other managed care entities who are contracting with the department in that county.

**88.3(7) *Enrollment procedures.*** In mandatory enrollment counties, recipients shall be required to choose their managed care entity. When no choice is made by the recipient, the recipient shall be assigned to a contracting health maintenance organization (HMO) serving the recipient's county of residence when an HMO is available or to a MediPASS patient manager on a rotating basis to ensure an equitable distribution between the HMO and MediPASS programs based on the number of managed health care options (MediPASS and HMOs) available in the county. In the event there is no contracting HMO serving the recipient's county of residence in a mandatory enrollment county, the recipient shall be assigned to a MediPASS patient manager.

Within the MediPASS option, recipients shall be assigned according to age appropriateness. Whenever possible, family units shall be assigned to the same provider that an enrolled family member has selected, if that provider is appropriate according to age parameters. If not, the household shall be

assigned to another physician. MediPASS patient managers shall not be assigned more recipients than their self-imposed maximum or the maximum described in subrule 88.46(5), whichever is lower.

Recipients who are assigned a managed care entity as described in this subrule shall have at least ten days in which to request enrollment in a different available entity. The change is subject to provisions in subrule 88.4(2) dealing with the effective date.

*a. Timely notice.* Recipients shall be sent timely notice of the managed care entity assignment. The recipient shall have a minimum of ten days in which a change to the assigned managed care entity can be made. The notice shall include the name of the managed care entity to whom the recipient shall be assigned if the recipient does not make a different selection by the date specified in the notice. If the covered eligible does not make a selection before the due date, the recipient shall be enrolled with the managed care entity listed on the notice.

*b. Enrollment.* Enrollment in managed health care shall be discussed during the face-to-face interview with all applicants for Medicaid under covered categories of assistance in mandatory or voluntary enrollment areas. The applicant shall be shown an informational videotape and encouraged to make a selection of a managed care entity. Applicants in mandatory enrollment areas shall be informed that should the applicant become eligible for a managed health care selection, one shall be assigned. Covered eligibles who are not enrolled shall be sent a notice of their managed health care assignment when the recipient:

- (1) Attains initial eligibility for a covered category of service in a mandatory project county.
- (2) Changes from an excluded category of assistance to a covered category of assistance in a mandatory project county.
- (3) Is receiving a covered category of assistance and moves from a county where no managed health care is available or from a voluntary project county to a mandatory project county.
- (4) Reattains eligibility.
- (5) Has a new member of the household receiving a covered category of assistance.

*c. Selection of a managed health care provider.* A list of health care providers participating in managed care entities serving the county shall be available to recipients for use in selecting a provider. If the recipient wishes to request an exception to the list of available managed health care providers, the managed health care review committee shall make a determination on the exception request. While the determination is being made, the recipient's enrollment shall be placed in a pending status.

*d. Request to change enrollment.* An enrolled recipient may, within 90 days from timely notice, request to change enrollment from one managed health care provider to another or one managed care entity to another. The request may be made on a choice form designated by the department, in writing, or by telephone call to the toll-free recipient managed health care telephone line maintained by the department. Changes are subject to the provisions of subrule 88.4(2) dealing with effective date.

*e. Managed care entity extended-participation program (EPP).* After the initial 90 days from timely notice, recipients will remain enrolled with the chosen entity for the following six months, with three exceptions:

- (1) A request for disenrollment by recipient for good cause pursuant to paragraph 88.4(3) "a."
- (2) A request for disenrollment by provider for good cause pursuant to paragraph 88.4(3) "b."
- (3) Availability of a new, previously unavailable, managed care entity. In this instance recipients will be allowed to select that entity for the remainder of the current EPP period.

*f. Enrollment cycle.* Prior to the end of any EPP period, recipients shall be notified of their ability to enroll with a different managed care option. A change in enrollment or failure to change enrollment will begin a new EPP enrollment period at the end of the current EPP.